

Components of an Operational Flash Flood Warning System
Abstract
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In order to implement a fully operational end to end flash flood warning system that provides people with sufficient lead time, warning accuracy and lead time in order to reduce human and economic losses from flash floods, an end to end warning and response system can be established. This end to end warning system must have a reliable automatic data collection and communication system, a model or procedure to convert rainfall, stream gage readings, streamflow and other hydrometeorological data into a flash flood forecast (containing crest stage and time), and a warning dissemination system that links to local emergency response organizations and the media. Since most flash floods occur within minutes to a few hours from the flash flood trigger (usually heavy rainfall) , the system must be fully automatic and operate in a 24hour a day 7 day a week operations center.